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materials and labor would go a great way toward the desired goal of larger dividends." This is no doubt the best general book on public utility rates as distinct from railway rates that has yet appeared. The book is full of solid information. Very ample footnotes and references are a guide for checking up the sources and character of information.

Valuation, Depreciation and the Rate-Base, however, does not equal this contribution. Neither is it so well tempered with concern for the public interest as well as for the corporate interest. The book covers old ground and does not do that particularly well. There are some tables in the Appendix which will be of material value and assistance. These have to do with Probable Useful Life, Expectancy and Remaining Value, Amount of One Dollar at Compound Interest, Value of One Dollar Due at a Future Date, Amount of an Annuity of One Dollar, An Annuity Which Will Amount to a Dollar in a Given Time, Present Value of an Annuity of One Dollar, Annuity Which One Dollar Will Purchase, and Amortization and Depreciation.

CLYDE L. KING.

University of Pennsylvania.

BEER, GEORGE LOUIS. *The English-Speaking Peoples*. Pp. xi, 322. Price, \$1.50. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1917.

This volume covers nearly all those phases of international relationships which have significance for today or for the future, and will appeal to the widest possible group of readers. After two introductory chapters, whose theme is the necessity of modifying radically our present conception of unlimited sovereignty, if we are ever to achieve any sort of effective international organization, the writer in the following three chapters shows clearly how our initial reaction to the war, one of lofty sense of isolation, was the direct result of our century long consistent foreign policy of non-interference in European affairs.

It is in the last three chapters, however, that the author really presents his main thesis. This is that there exists a fundamental unity of racial, cultural, economic, and political interests among the various English-speaking peoples. This contention is driven home with such a wealth of illustration that its fundamental truth is proved beyond any serious doubt. One cannot urge too strongly the desirability of a more general appreciation among our fellow citizens of this essential community of interests.

The volume, made up as it is in part of articles previously published, suffers from a lack of coherence. This defect is made more evident by the author's tendency occasionally to elaborate his arguments unnecessarily. Despite these defects, this book must remain one of the most suggestive that the war has thus far inspired.

J. G. McD.

JAMES, HERMAN G. *Municipal Functions*. Pp. xi, 369. Price, \$2.00. New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1917.

Pope, I think it was, who, taking advantage of the license popularly granted his profession, once surveyed the field of municipal activities, and concluded:

Of forms of government let fools contest;
Whate'er is best administered is best.

We have many volumes that discuss the forms of municipal government, with detailed and comparative explanations of the powers and duties of the various officers, boards and commissions operating under any given system. With elaborations of the activities or functions themselves we have not been supplied so generously. This is the aim of Dr. James' book, and he has succeeded remarkably well. "Throughout this work but little attention has been devoted to the subject of governmental machinery, for the chief concern here has been to point out what every city should do no matter what form of government it might be operating under" (p. 347).

The author, however, does not agree with the poet's conclusion as to the organization of municipal government, observing "that while the end is much more important than the means, there may be a vast difference in the ease with which the end is to be accomplished, according to whether or not the most suitable means have been employed" (p. 347). This same spirit of intelligent toleration pervades all the many mooted questions discussed.

Municipal Functions surveys the field of the major activities of the typical city in such a way that it may be of great value as a guide to a college class in municipal administration. At the same time the average citizen will find it entirely readable. The relationship between success in management and the adoption of definite policies in municipal affairs is pointed out in every chapter. It is this feeling, unconsciously seeping into his mind, that will change the city dweller into a citizen.

The work of the various departments of the average city is taken up in detail. City planning, public morals, education, budgets and accounting, public works, health and safety are a few of the subjects given consideration. There has been a conscious omission of footnotes and bibliography.

Certain general conclusions are open to criticism. For example, there is ample reason for the contradiction of the statement (p. 146) in reference to prostitution. It is a recognized fact that it has not "been forbidden in every civilized country by law." Abraham Flexner, in *Prostitution in Europe* says: "In England, Italy, Norway, Holland and Switzerland there is no penal enactment against prostitution as such." In a memorandum to the Corporation of Glasgow, the Chief Constable declares: "Immorality in itself is no offense against the law." We are impressed, however, with the open mind with which the many controversial questions are approached. The author has no reformer's axe to grind at any point. In each case the facts are presented, pro and con, and the dogmatic conclusion, if there is to be one, is left to the reader for formulation.

H. G. HODGES.

Cleveland, O.

KAWAKAMI, K. K. *Japan in World Politics*. Pp. xxvii, 300. Price, \$1.50. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1917.

Mr. Kawakami, a partly American-educated Japanese, so far as his advanced work is concerned, and a follower of Karl Marx who has modified his extreme socialistic views after an extended residence in the western part of the United States and marriage to an American woman, has become a somewhat prolific